

Sea Level Rise Advisory Committee Meeting

December 7, 2012



Delaware's Sea Level Rise Initiative



A SLR Adaptation Plan for Delaware

- A call to Action
- A document that explains, informs and guides adaptation responses
 - ✓ Guiding Principles
 - ✓ Case Studies
 - ✓ Builds in Flexibility
- Outlines recommendations to to build capacity to adapt to sea level rise



Timeline, Revised

Month	Event	Outcome
November	SLRAC Meeting	Consensus on Broad Categories
December	SLRAC Meeting	Consensus on specific recommendations for discussion at public meetings
January	SLRAC Meeting	Consensus on specific recommendations and guiding principles for public meetings
January	Announcement of grant availability	DCP's Technical Assistance grants to focus on early implementation projects that fall under the broad categories.
February	Public Meetings	Public feedback on recommendations
March	SLRAC Meeting	Review public meeting feedback and determine changes to recommendations. Review draft chapters
April	SLRAC Meeting	Approve draft document for release for public review
May	SLRAC Meeting	Review of public comments, edits and final plan approval
June	Layout, printing & Design	Document completed



Adaptive Capacity Building Recommendations

- 8 Broad Categories
 - ✓ Approved in November
- 73 Specific Recommendations from Focus Group Sessions
 - ✓ Combined and organized by DCP staff
 - ✓ Not yet refined
 - ✓ SLRAC members provided feedback in November via Survey



Today's Goal

- Agree upon recommendations that we will seek public feedback on at Feb Public Meetings
 - ✓ NOT final approval for inclusion in Adaptation Plan
 - ✓ Discussions can continue at January meeting
- Obtain useful information for incorporation into recommendation text



Results of Survey

- 23 Responses
 - ✓ 12 SLRAC Committee Members
 - ✓ 7 Alternate Members
 - ✓ 4 Workgroup members
- Responses Scored
 - ✓ I agree (2)
 - ✓ Recommendation has merit – further evaluate (1)
 - ✓ Disagree (-2)
 - ✓ Not enough info (-1)
- Scores ranged from 1.81 -0.18

Outcome of Survey

- DCP staff assessed each recommendation and categorized for next steps:
 - ✓ Include with no further discussion
 - ***Score of 0.7 or higher, will be refined by DCP staff***
 - ✓ Proposed for deletion
 - ***Low score, duplicative, impossible or off-the-wall***
 - ✓ Include with discussion and refinement
 - ***Scores of less than 0.7, needing clarification***
 - ✓ More discussion and refinement necessary
 - ***Scores of less than 0.7, complex or contentious issue***

Include with no further discussion

- See Handout



Proposed for Deletion – DELETE ALL

- Policies #11 – Prioritize Planning for Unincorporated Towns
 - ✓ Planning and Technical assistance in other recommendations
- Ed #3 – Warning Signs
 - ✓ Lowest score on survey
- Funding #2a – Allow SRF in Level 4
 - ✓ Already allowed
- Funding #6 – TMDL, Cancer, HSCA...
 - ✓ We threw them at the wall and they didn't stick



Include with Refinement

- See handout



Discuss (includes SLRAC input from meeting)

- Regs # 1 – Create a coastal road classification
- Process exists to abandon roads/give to county
- Doesn't provide add'l value
- DELETE



Discuss (Includes SLRAC input from meeting)

- Regs #3 – Allow connection of individual septic systems to community systems with excess capacity
 - ✓ Expand for health safety welfare issues, but not for new development
 - ✓ Don't want to encourage people to stay in vulnerable areas; but would help expand life-span of property
 - ✓ Question re: whether it would be mandated for owners to allow
 - ***Reword to “pre-existing”***
 - ***Only a Sussex County issue***
 - ***Go with it***



Discuss (includes SLRAC input from meeting)

- Regs #13 – Expand DNREC authority to acquire and/or protect areas identified as feasible and necessary for wetland migration
 - ✓ Update the tidal wetland line MORE FREQUENTLY or on a periodic basis to account for SLR
 - *Conduct study*
 - ✓ Takings issue with upland regulation – legal defensibility
 - ✓ Incorporate into open space decisions
- DELETE.



Discuss (includes SLRAC input from meeting)

- Fund #1 – Modify the hotel accommodations tax to increase funds - KEEP (recognize lots of problems). Talk more in January.

✓ Background info

- *Expand it to include B&B and Vacation Homes*
- *Expand the geographic area*
- *1% designated for “sand replenishment”*
- *Alternative proposal would be licensing for vacation homes*
- *A brainstorm*
- *Don’t know what true costs*

✓ Use

- *Increases Equity*
- *Be specific about what the allowable uses are*



Next Steps and Meeting

- DCP will refine recommendations
 - ✓ With assistance from SLRAC experts
- January Meeting
 - ✓ Thursday, January 10, 9-12
 - ✓ St. Jones Reserve

